

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 SS-07 AID-01 NSC-06 SSO-00 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3121

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 0860

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (PERCY, CHARLES H.)

SUBJECT: CODEL PERCY: PRELIMINARY GRZ REACTIONS

REF: STATE 084795

1. IN MEETING WITH FONMIN BANDA APR 9, HE INFORMED SENATOR PERCY PROPOSED VISITING ZAMBIA APR 16-18 AND WOULD LIKE MEETINGS WITH LEADING ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS. BANDA IMMEDIATELY QUESTIONED TIMING OF VISIT AND ASKED WHOM CODEL HOPED TO SEE IN ZAMBIA OVER 3-DAY EASTER WEEKEND WHICH IS OFFICIAL ZAMBIAN HOLIDAY WHEN OFFICIALS AT HOME WITH FAMILIES OR IN THEIR VILLAGES. MOREOVER, BANDA SAID PRES KAUNDA WOULD HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM SEEING PRES NETO IN LUANDA, WOULD BE PREPARING TO VISIT PRES MACHEL IN MAPUTO APR 20-25, AND THAT MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS ALREADY SEIZED WITH MAJOR PREPARATIONS FOR VISIT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER

IMMEDIATELY

UPON PRES. KAUNDA'S RETURN FROM MAPUTO.

2. WHILE ZAMBIA CONSIDERS SENATOR PERCY A CLOSE AND SYMPATHETIC AMERICAN FRIEND AND WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO RECEIVE HIM, ZAMBIAN HOSPITALITY COULD NOT DO JUSTICE TO VISIT ON DATES PROPOSED OVER EASTER WEEKEND. THEY HAVE ASKED IF ANOTHER TIME, PERHAPS IN MAY AFTER NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MIGHT NOT BE JUST AS CONVENIENT FOR SENATOR PERCY. WE TENDED TO DOUBT THIS

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BUT PROMISED TO REFER SUGGESTION TO WASHINGTON.

3. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR MARK CHONA, HE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT EASTER WEEKEND TIMING OF VISIT. IF POSTPONEMENT TO MAY NOT POSSIBLE, HE SAID GRZ "WOULD TRY" TO BE ACCOMMODATING. HE WILL CALL US TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES AFTER MORE DELIBERATE ZAMBIAN CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL.

4. CHONA QUESTIONED RELIANCE ON TM 52 FLIGHT OUT OF LUSAKA APR 18 FOR MAPUTO, AS IT DOES NOT NORMALLY PICK UP OR DISCHARGE PASSENGERS IN LUSAKA. ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS MIGHT ARRANGE EXCEPTION FOR CODEL OR FAILING THAT WE COULD ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE FOR PRIVATE CHARTER OR ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT. ADVISE.

5. NOTWITHSTANDING ABOVE DIFFICULTIES IN SCHEDULING MEETINGS WITH HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS EMBASSY WILL DO ALL POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE FOR MEETINGS WITH THEM AND WITH ANY OF THOSE LIBERATION MOVEMENT LEADERS IN LUSAKA OVER EASTER WEEKEND.

6. BECAUSE OF THIN STAFF AT EMBASSY LUSAKA, AMBASSADOR AND DCM ARE BOTH INTESIVELY ENGAGED IN PREPARATIONS FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT BUT WILL DO ALL POSSIBLE TO BE AVAILABLE TO ACCOMPANY SENATOR PERCY TO MEET WITH WHATEVER ZAIRIAN OFFICIALS AVAILABLE AND TO IN-HOUSE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. DR. POOLE AND MRS. PERCY WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE.

7. ONE DOUBLE AND ONE SINGLE HAVE BEEN RESERVED AT INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL FOR NIGHTS OF APRIL 16 AND 17.
WILKOWSKI

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE AS RECEIVED.

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